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SPRINGFIELD

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CLARENCE W. KLASSEN  
CHIEF SANITARY ENGINEER  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

April 16, 1964

ADDRESS LETTERS TO:  
STATE SANITARY WATER BOARD  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS  
For future correspondence  
please use our ZIP Code  
Springfield, Illinois 62706

DOWNERS GROVE - Shafer Bearing Division  
St. Joseph's Creek Pollution

William J. Katz, Ph.D  
Technical Director  
Rex Chain Belt Company  
Milwaukee 1, Wisconsin

Dear Doctor Katz:

Engineers Carl T. Blomgren of our Chicago office and Kenneth Karch of the DuPage County Health Department have reported on their March 25, 1964 inspection of the industrial waste facilities serving the Shafer Bearing plant in Downers Grove, Illinois. Mr. Robert Gabbert, maintenance foreman, accompanied these engineers during this visit.

Our Engineer's report indicates that, even though the spent chromate and cyanide solutions are drained from the plating tanks, collected in drums and shipped to a separate plant for treatment, there are some chromate and cyanide wastes being discharged to St. Joseph's Creek. These wastes are apparently caused by the "drag-out" during transfer of the plated metal to the rinse tanks. In addition, the contents of the rinse tanks which contain cyanide and chromate are discharged to the lagoon. The results of a grab sample showed cyanides of 2.3 ppm, chromates of 1.0 ppm and copper of 1.02 ppm being discharged from the lagoon during the visit on March 25, 1964.

The Sanitary Water Board will require that the Shafer Bearing plant completely remove all cyanide, chromate and copper from the lagoon effluent before discharge to St. Joseph's Creek.

We shall expect a reply to this letter indicating what action will be taken to provide effective treatment facilities. If you should have any questions, please feel free to call upon this office or the Engineers assigned to our Chicago office at 1919 W. Taylor Street, zone 60612 (Phone: 738-2160).

Very truly yours,

ILLINOIS SANITARY WATER BOARD

  
C. W. Klassen  
Technical Secretary

CTB:ila

- CC - SWB, Chicago
- DuPage County Health Dept.
- Downers Grove Sanitary Dist.
- Ralph S. Esposito, Plant Manager

PLEASE SEND A COPY OF YOUR  
REPLY DIRECTLY TO OUR CHICAGO  
OFFICE AT 1919 W. TAYLOR ST.  
CHICAGO, ILL. 60612  
TEL 738-2160